

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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DEPT PASS TO AID

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR

SUBJ: GOC ALLOTS TURKISH PROPERTY TO REFUGEES

1. REVERSING PREVIOUS POLICY, GOC HAS RECENTLY DECIDED TO ALLOCATE
ABANDONED TURKISH PROPERTY TO REFUGEES ON A PROVISIONAL BASIS AND HAS
BEGUN TO ENCOURAGE REFUGEES TO APPLY FOR SUCH HOUSING. THE NICOSIA
DISTRICT OFFICE HAS ANNOUNCED THE NAMES OF 13 VILLAGES WHERE RESETTLE-

MENT TAKING PLACE: PERISTERONA, AKAKI, LINOU, LAKKATAMIA, KATO DEFTERA,

KOUTRAPHAS, POTAMIA, IDALION, MATHIATIS, NISOU, PHLASOU, ANALYONTAS,
AREDHIU, AYIOS SOZOMENOS, KATO MONI, AND AYII ELIPHOTES. MANY OF
THESE WERE FORMERLY MIXED VILLAGES WHOSE TURKISH INHABITANTS ABANDONED

THEIR PROPERTIES FOR ENCLAVES FOLLOWING THE 1963 TROUBLES.

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2. GOC, NOT WANTING TO EXPOSE ITSELF TO SAME CHARGES IT LEVELING

AGAINST TURKS IN NORTH, HAS BEEN CAREFUL TO EMPHASIZE THAT PROPERTY
WILL
BE CONSIDERED AS BEING MAINTAINED FOR ACCOUNT OF THE TURK CYPRIOT OWN-

ERS, THAT IT WILL BE ALLOCATED TO REFUGEES ON TEMPORARY BASIS BOTH FOR

MAINTENANCE AND UTILIZATION, AND THAT TURK CYPRIOTS ARE FREE AND, IN
FACT ARE ENCOURAGED, TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES.

3. RESPONSE OF REFUGEES TO GOC PROPERTY ALLOCATION PROGRAM AND IN
PARTICULAR EFFECT OF THIS NEW DECISION ON NUMBERS OF REFUGEES RE-
MAINING IN TENT CAMPS, ARE NOT YET CLEAR. HOWEVER, IF SETTLEMENT OF
TURKISH SECTOR OF LARNACA BY GREEK CYPRIOTS LAST SPRING AND SUMMER
(WHICH GOVERNMENT ACQUIESCED IN BUT DID NOT ENCOURAGE) IS ANY GUAGE,
REFUGEES MOVING INTO GOVERNMENT ALLOCATED PROPERTY MAY, FOR THE MOST
PART, BE THOSE LIVING IN OVERCROWDED CONDITIONS WITH FAMILIES AND
FRIENDS RATHER THAN TENT CAMP REFUGEES. MANY OF LATTER, WE UNDER-
STAND, WISH TO REMAIN IN TENT CAMPS FOR TIME BEING IN EXPECTATION THAT

THEY WILL GET FIRST PRIORITY WHEN GOC HOUSING PROGRAM IS COMPLETED.

4. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER PASSING ON INFORMATION ABOUT GOC
TURKISH PROPERTY ALLOCATION PROGRAM TO KENNEDY REFUGEE SUBCOMMITTEE
STAFFERS TINKER AND DE HAAN. LATTER, DURING RECENT VISIT HERE,
APPEARED
NOT TO BE AWARE OF MOVEMENT OF GREEKS INTO TURKISH HOMES IN LARNACA OR

OF GOC PLANS TO ALLOCATE TURKISH PROPERTY TO REFUGEES.
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